

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 FMC-04 CG-00 COA-02 AEC-11

SCS-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 RSR-01 /127 W

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P 031928Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2337

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, FR

SUBJECT: FRI-- DELIEVERY OF NOTE TO QUAI'D'ORSAY

REF: STATE 152410

1. EMBOFF DELIVERED NOTE PER REFTTEL AUGUST 3 TO QUAI SCIENTIFIC
AFFAIRS CHIEF OF SERVICE GILLES CURIEN.

2. CURIEN NOTED LANGUAGE OF SECOND PARAGRAPH OF NOTE THAT USG
"TAKES EXCPETION TO THE ACTIONS OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT IN SEIZ-
ING THE FRI AND REMOVING ITS CREW AND PASSENGERS." HE THOUGHT
FRENCH HAD DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT THE FRI CREW
HAD BEEN HANDLED COURETOUSLY FROM TIME OF STOPPING THE YACHT
AS IT ENTERED MUROA SECURITY ZONE TO THIS WEEK'S RETURN OF
DAVID MODDIE AND HIS CREW MEMBERS TO THE YACHT. CURIEN DOUBTED
FRENCH NATIONALS WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCORDED SAME CARE AND CON-
SIDERATION. HE THOUGHT GOVENOR ANGELI HAD SHOWN " REMARK-
ABLE" FLEXIBILITY IN WORKING OUT SOLUTION TO THIS MATTER WHICH
WAS REPORTEDLY SATISFACTORY TO DAVID MOODIE AND HIS FATHER, AS WELL
AS US CONSULAR REP MISS FOWLER.

3. IN NOTING US "CONCERN" OVER GOF DELAYS IN TRANSMITTING
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INFORMATION TO EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE, CURIEN TOOK

POSITION THAT USG WAS ACTUALLY INFORMED AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES. HE SAID LOCAL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES IN PACIFIC WERE AFTER ALL EXTREMELY BUSY CARRYING OUT A MISSION OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO FRANCE. HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT THEY RELAYED ADEQUATE INFORMATION TO QUAI TO KEEP USG GENERALLY APPRAISED OF DEVELOPMENTS SURROUNDING "PROVOCATION" BY THE FRI CREW.

4. CURIEN, WHO WAS NOTABLY CORDIAL AND RELAXED THROUGHOUT CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, INDICATED QUAI LEGAL OFFICE WOULD STUDY NOTE AND NO DOUBT REPLY IN DUE COURSE.

5. CURIEN ALSO READ TO EMBOFF FROM JUST-RECEIVED CABLE INDICATING THAT DAVID MOODIE, "HIS WIFE," AND OTHER FRI CREW MEMBERS RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED AT TAHITI HAVE REGAINED FRI AT MURUROA. FRENCH HAVE REPORTEDLY PUT THE VESSEL IN "SEA WORTHY CONDITION" AND HAVE GIVEN SKIPPER MOODIE A CERTIFICATE INDICATING FRI IS "FREE OF RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION." CURIEN SAID FRI CREW HAVE ASKED DELAY OF 48 HOURS BEFORE DEPARTING MURUROA.

6. FINALLY, CURIEN NOTED THAT US CONSULAR REP MISS FOWLER, WHO PLANS TO LEAVE PAPEETE AUGUST 4, HAS BEEN INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING FRI CREW AND HAS REPORTEDLY INDICATED HER "SATISFACTION" TO FRENCH OFFICIALS.
STONE

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